

Crisis talks held in Italy

ROME, Jan. 17 (R). — Italian President Giovanni Leone today began two days of talks with political leaders before appointing a candidate to succeed Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, who resigned yesterday. Political sources said they expected Andreotti to be entrusted by the President on Thursday with the difficult task of trying to form his fourth government. He resigned after Italy's powerful Communists demanding cabinet seats in an emergency government, withdrew their tacit support from his minority Christian Democrat Party. Backed by the United States, the Christian Democrats rejected the demands of the Communists but offered them closer cooperation in parliament.

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Kuwait cuts crude oil price

KUWAIT, Jan. 17 (R). — Kuwait today announced a 10 cents reduction in its price for crude oil to \$12.27 a barrel, backdated to Jan. 1. Oil Ministry Under Secretary Mahmoud Al Adasani told reporters that the government was also extending credit terms to buyers of its crude oil, who will now have 60 days in which to pay for their purchases, (double the period previously allowed.) He said buyers of Kuwaiti oil in the United States, Europe and the Far East have been informed of the Kuwaiti decision. Mr. Al Adasani has denied reports that the reduction was unofficially in operation since last Sept. as a move to boost Kuwaiti oil sales.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

JORDAN TIMES

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King Hussein: Let the occupied territories be placed under international auspices

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein proposed last night that the Palestinian territories which Israel occupied in the 1967 war be placed under "international auspices" so that the inhabitants of these territories will have the opportunity to decide their own future.

In an interview with French television filmed in Amman, King Hussein said that Prime Minister Menachem Begin's proposals to give self-rule to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip were both "unacceptable and unconstructive in any case."

The Palestinian people should take part in the process of finding a solution to their problem and should be considered a party to the peace process, the King said during the interview broadcast live on ORTF's Channel 1.

In answer to a question on Jordan's stand towards current peace negotiations, His Majesty said "We are observing developments closely. We are one of the front-line states; thus, the establishment of just and durable peace in the area is of crucial importance to us. We also believe in the necessity of securing the Palestinians rights to their homeland."

He added, "Until the means and principles which shall be adopted for the establishment of peace -- whether at Geneva or elsewhere -- become clear, we shall pursue our efforts to unify Arab ranks and continue our contact with the parties concerned ... and play a constructive role to the best of our abilities."

Replying to a question on Mr. Begin's peace proposals, King Hussein said: "Ever since 1967, we have time and again made clear what is acceptable to us. We will be doing our best to regain all the territories occupied by Israel from Jordan and the Arabs in 1967 and place these territories under international auspices until the Palestinians determine their own future. Most of the Palestinian people, I believe, are anxiously looking forward to the establishment of a just and lasting peace."

"I am sure that any decision taken by the Palestinians will be acceptable to us -- will be a decision we can live with -- and will be in agreement with the conception of peace."

In answer to a question about the possibility of Jordan's participation in peace negotiations, His Majesty said "I cannot bargain over Palestinian lands and Palestinian rights. If we are to participate in negotiations for the restoration of the lands we lost in June 1967, then all those lands and all those rights will have to be restored -- not given back to Jordan -- but placed under international auspices, until the Palestinian people decide their own future -- in the occupied territories and elsewhere."

As for the future, he added, "Our links with the Palestinians are very strong. There is a strong attachment by the Palestinians to the Palestinian identity -- the case is the same with the Jordanians and their identity -- but I cannot imagine that these two peoples who were part of the greater homeland and who are tied by many strong links could part."

"The people may choose unity between Palestine and Jordan. I am sure the national link between us is very strong and is difficult to break."

In answer to a question on the possibility of reconvening the Geneva conference, King Hussein said "I think the possibility for the reconvening of the Geneva conference still exists. The Cairo meetings have been described as a preparation for Geneva. I believe the meetings being held now are to determine and reach agreement on principles -- which of course are included in Resolutions 242 and 338 in preparation for the next stage."

President Sadat has announced that once there is success in arriving at these principles and once all the parties concerned accept them, he will contact the Arab leaders and tell them that the time has come to go to Geneva to discuss the details. It is of no use to talk about Geneva now because much depends on what will happen in the coming few days."

In answer to a question on the possibility of Jordan's contacting Israel to start negotiations, the King said that despite Jordan's efforts since 1967 to secure a just peace "Israel has not even accepted a disengagement agreement (with Jordan) similar to the ones concluded between Israel and Egypt and Israel and Syria following the October 1973 war. Then at the Rabat summit conference, a decision was taken to alter our responsibilities towards the Palestinian issue. Before that conference the Israelis kept saying that Jordan had occupied the West Bank by force in 1948 and then annexed it. The Israeli prime minister reiterated recently that he does not regard us as a party with rights to the occupied territories, although we were admitted to the United Nations and it was recognized by all without a dissenting voice that the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan comprises the East and the West Banks."

"Peace must be based on the principles laid down in Resolutions 242 and 338; that is to say, total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and recognition of Palestinian rights in exchange for peace," the King went on to say.

Somali president arrives in Amman

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (Agencies). — Somali President Muhammad Siad Barre arrived here this evening for a two-day visit and went directly into a round of talks with His Majesty King Hussein on Arab developments, the situation in the Horn of Africa and bilateral relations.

The talks were attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf and members of the delegation accompanying the Somali president.

Radio Mogadishu said President Barre, who has visited a number of Arab capitals to seek support for Somalia in the Ogaden conflict, may travel on to other countries after Jordan.

Somalia warns of major Soviet-backed Ethiopian attack on its territory

NAIROBI, Jan. 17 (R). — Somali President Muhammad Siad Barre had told the ambassadors of the United States and four other Western countries that a Soviet-inspired attack on northwestern Somalia from Ethiopia was imminent, diplomatic sources said here today.

The president called in the envoys -- including those of Britain, France, West Germany and Italy -- for a meeting to express his anxiety about the "huge buildup" of Soviet arms in Ethiopia.

According to diplomats in neighbouring Kenya, President Siad Barre renewed his appeals for Western arms.

The meeting followed a statement by Somali Information Minister Abdulkasim Salad Hassan that the Soviet and Cuban defence ministers were now secretly in Ethiopia where their subordinates were masterminding the invasion plan.

Eritrean group accuses USSR of intervention

ROME, Jan. 17 (R). — Eritrean guerrillas today accused the Soviet navy of direct involvement in the fighting in Ethiopia's war-torn Red Sea province.

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) said here that two Soviet destroyers off the besieged Eritrean port of Massawa were bombarding liberation forces attacking the city.

MIG fighter bombers were also striking at the attacking rebels to assist Massawa's Ethiopian government defenders, according to the EPLF spokesman in Rome, Mr. Ermias Debesai.

He said the rebel forces had shot down two Ethiopian jets -- one Soviet-made, one U.S.-made -- and both crashed into the sea off the Eritrean coast.

There was no independent confirmation of the reports. The Soviet Union has sent huge supplies of arms to Ethiopia's hardpressed Marxist military rulers, who are also fighting a second war -- against Somali liberation forces -- in the southeast of the country.

The EPLF spokesman in Rome, Mr. Ermias, said today that a MIG-21 and an American F-5 jet, apparently given by the United States to the late Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie, were shot down in the last two days.

"They crashed into the sea near Massawa, so we don't know who were piloting them," he said. "But we don't think the Ethiopians can be flying them."

The spokesman reported that the two Soviet destroyers anchored eight kms. off the coast "are bombarding our strongholds."

"MIGs are bombing the war zones and liberated areas," he added. "There are Russian advisers and Cuban advisers at Massawa."

The spokesman said that while the besieging rebels held parts of Massawa, the Ethiopian government forces were still holding out in the commercial port and main business district, which are on an island linked to the mainland by an easily-defended causeway. He said the Ethiopians also held the Massawa naval base.

Strong Egyptian appeal for Palestinian rights irks Israelis at Jerusalem talks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 17 (Agencies). — The Middle East peace talks opened today with a fiery speech from Egypt's Foreign Minister Mohammad Ibrahim Kamel and then recessed for study of rival working papers that charted widely different approaches to a settlement. Mr. Kamel told the conference, gathered in the ballroom of Jerusalem's Hilton hotel: "There will be no real peace in Palestine for the house of Israel unless there can be an equal house there for the Palestinian people."

Mr. Kamel said Egypt was demanding "a just and durable peace based on withdrawal from all the territories occupied by Israel since the war of 1967, including Jerusalem, the holy city of peace."

The tone of the speech at first shocked and angered Israeli delegates. But they later shrugged it off as a vigorous opening gambit.

"It was a nice phrase," Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan told a press conference later. But he said the problems should be discussed more seriously in the negotiations.

After the opening speeches by Mr. Kamel, Mr. Dayan and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, the delegates retired for a 15-minute closed session on the 21st floor of the Hilton.

The U.S. secretary of state, who is participating in this week's talks here, reminded his colleagues of their weighty responsibility.

"We will be held accountable, today by world opinion and tomorrow by history, if we fail," he warned.

At the closed session Egypt and Israel presented each other with working papers setting out proposals and how they wanted them discussed.

Spokesmen declined to reveal what was in them. But Mr. Dayan admitted that the Egyptian proposals were "not so very different" from the ideas put forward at Ismailia in the Christmas day meeting between Prime Minister Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat.

It was largely because these ideas -- for full Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands and for Palestinian self-determination -- were so unacceptable to Mr. Begin that the Jerusalem talks were set up.

Dayan: No ultimatums

Mr. Dayan, in his speech to the delegates and at the press conference, repeatedly stressed that both sides must study each other's views and fashion agreement out of them.

But he warned the Egyptians: "A peace settlement is an alternative and not a substitute for war. It can only be achieved by concessions, compromises and mutual agreement. Any attempt to solve the problem by ultimatum would miss the whole point of the peace exercise."

He called for a "fair solution" to the problem of "Arab Palestinians of Judea -- Samaria and Gaza" affirming that Israel continued to reject self-determination for those territories or the inclusion of Palestinian refugees in the solution.

U.S. reiterates known position

Mr. Vance reiterated the position of U.S. President Jimmy Carter, saying a comprehensive peace settlement must be based on normal relations, evacuation of Israel from territories occupied in 1967 and a solution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects, recognising Palestinians legitimate rights including their right to participate in determining their own future.

At the press conference, Mr. Dayan said Israel was ready to examine any Arab proposals but added: "The only proposal we are not ready to accept is an ultimatum of take-it-or-leave-it."

Mr. Dayan said he considered Egypt had made one major concession since Ismailia. That was acceptance of the three-point conference agenda which was only settled after a difficult diplomatic struggle last weekend.

At Ismailia, Mr. Dayan said, the Egyptians "were far from accepting such an agenda."

But he admitted that Israel had bowed to Egypt's insistence and agreed to let the issue of Jewish settlements in Sinai be considered at the parallel defence ministers' talks in Cairo.



Egypt's Foreign Minister Mohammad Kamel delivers his opening speech at the beginning of the Egyptian-Israeli political committee talks in occupied Jerusalem Tuesday morning. (AP wirephoto)



Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, head of Israel's delegation to the Egyptian-Israeli talks in occupied Jerusalem, reads his opening speech Tuesday morning. (AP wirephoto)

The Sinai issue might still come up indirectly at Jerusalem but only under general headings, Mr. Dayan said.

Asked about Israel's attitude to the Sinai settlements, Mr. Dayan said they were important for Israel's defences on a traditional invasion route. But he said the matter was open to negotiation.

Prime Minister Begin later received Mr. Kamel for 45 minutes in what was described by Israeli officials as a courtesy call.

Mr. Kamel, who delivered a message from President Sadat to Mr. Begin, said the meeting was "very cordial."

Later Mr. Kamel toured the Knesset. As he entered the main chamber, Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon was making a speech on Israeli policy on settlements in occupied Arab areas.

After today's meeting, a U.S. spokesman said the American

delegation would play a passive role in the conference, intervening only if negotiations between Egyptians and Israelis became deadlocked.

Spokesman Hodding Carter said Mr. Vance, scheduled to leave Jerusalem Friday for Cairo and talks with Mr. Sadat, and then to visit Ankara and Athens, would return to Jerusalem only if requested to do so by both Israelis and Egyptians.

Weizman due in Cairo Thursday

CAIRO, Jan. 17 (R). — Israeli Defence Minister Ezer Weizman will arrive in Cairo on Thursday to resume the work of the joint Egyptian-Israeli military committee, official sources said today.

The committee adjourned its first meeting last week after two days of talks at which the two sides clashed over the future of Jewish settlements in occupied Sinai.

Egyptian War Minister Gen. Mohammad Gamassi said the presence of the settlements "obstructs the peace efforts."

Israel also said during the talks that it wanted to keep its airfields in Sinai. This was rejected by Egypt, according to Gen. Gamassi.

The military sources said Mr. Weizman and Gen. Gamassi will hold a separate meeting on Friday and the formal talks will begin on Sunday.

Prince Hassan in London

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (Agencies). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, accompanied by his wife, Princess Sarvath left today for London, where they will spend several days privately before making a

working visit to the United States. During his U.S. trip the Prince will talk with American officials and industrialists about increased bilateral economic cooperation.

Shooting continues in South Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon, Jan. 17 (R). — Lebanese rightists and Palestinians bombed each other for half an hour today in Southern Lebanon, near the Israeli border, local residents said.

One person was reported wounded in the brief exchange between forces at southern 'Ain Tbi, held by rightwing militiamen, and Bint Jbeil, controlled by Palestinian-Lebanese leftist forces.

Heavier clashes had taken place over the weekend.

According to an unconfirmed report on the rightwing Phalangist Radio, seven commandos

were killed in an exchange during the night in the region's eastern sector.

Meanwhile, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Boutros returned to Beirut last night from a one-day visit to Damascus during which he had what he called "positive" and "brotherly" talks with Syrian leaders.

Speaking to reporters after briefing President Elias Sarkis on the outcome of his trip, Mr. Boutros said discussions covered various issues including the situation in South Lebanon.

Syria forms the backbone of the 30,000 strong Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

World News Roundup ...

USSR sends important message to Arafat

BEIRUT, Jan. 16 (R). — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat received an important message from Soviet leaders last night, the Palestinian news agency Wafa reported. It said Mr. Alexander Soldatov, the Soviet ambassador in Beirut, delivered the message at a meeting here with Mr. Arafat during which they reviewed the latest Middle East developments.

Egyptian leftists arrested

CAIRO, Jan. 17 (AFP). — Ten members of Egypt's official left-wing Progressive Unionist Party have been arrested while distributing leaflets hostile to President Anwar Sadat's recent peace initiative. Interior Minister Nabawi Ismail said here. Gen. Ismail was quoted by Misi, the majority Centre Party's weekly. Last year 22 Communist cells were dismantled by Egyptian authorities.

Joint Egypt-Sudan Defence Council to meet

CAIRO, Jan. 17 (AFP). — The joint Sudanese-Egyptian Defence Council will meet in the first week of February the daily newspaper Al Akhbar said today. Both countries' foreign and war ministers would attend the meeting which would be devoted to an in-depth examination of the situation in the region, the newspaper said. It also said the two countries' top level political committee would meet here on Monday, led for Egypt by Prime Minister Mamdouh Salem and for Sudan by Vice President Rashid Al Taber who is also foreign minister.

Egyptair is not issuing tickets to Israel

CAIRO, Jan. 17 (AFP). — Egyptair today denied signing a tourist flight agreement with the Israeli airline El Al, the daily newspaper Al Akhbar reported today. Egyptair's Commercial Director Salah Selim said that his company was not issuing any tickets to Israel, "as there was no change in the prevailing political situation."

Two Jerusalem boys found dead

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 17 (R). — Two young boys missing for two weeks were found dead in a drain near their home in Jerusalem today, police said. Hundreds of police and civilian volunteers had searched the Jerusalem area since the boys, aged seven and eight, disappeared. Last week an anonymous caller said he was holding the children and police offered to call off their search and drop possible charges if they were handed over. Police said they were continuing investigations into the boys' death.

Al Akhbar denies Sadat resignation report

CAIRO, Jan. 17 (AFP). — The Egyptian daily Al Akhbar today dismissed as an "absurd rumour" a report yesterday that President Anwar Sadat tried to resign on Sunday but was persuaded to stay in office. The best-selling Cairo newspaper criticised countries of the "refusal front" for "spreading false rumours" at a time when Egypt was about to embark on peace talks with Israel.

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Cheap propaganda, and lousy news

Every once in a while we feel it our professional and national duty to point out the more glaring failures of our colleagues in the press throughout the world, and this week we have run across some unacceptable performances by our friends at the Reuters news agency. And so, duty-bound, we point them out, and ask for a better performance. The specific example that irks us this week is the latest Reuters habit of referring to the West Bank occasionally as Judea and Samaria, and referring to the Palestinians as "Palestinian Arabs". Now, one could argue that in both cases there are some historical or demographic accuracies in these phrases, but the overriding consideration is that the use of both phrases, Judea and Samaria and Palestinian Arabs, is a reflection of Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's linguistic deception, and a cheap parroting of Zionist propaganda. For a respected international news agency such as Reuters to fall into the Israeli trap of repeating phrases whose aim is purely international deception is both a glaring professional failure and a personal ethical failure on the part of the Reuters people who write and edit the news.

Those international journalists whose job it is to write and disseminate news around the world have a special responsibility to humanity -- yes, to humanity itself -- to maintain a measure of fairness in their work that must remain impervious even to the massive tendencies and pressures to deceive that are inherent in Zionism and Zionism's century-long portrayal of the Palestinians as people who either do not exist or who do not have any national rights. It is totally unacceptable for an international news agency to adopt the very language of this Zionist misinformation effort.

We suggest again to the Arab information ministers that they seriously consider singling out one organ of the international press -- a news agency, a major television and radio network or a large publishing organization -- the next time it carries blatant Israeli propaganda under the guise of dispassionate news, and consider imposing substantial economic sanctions against it -- including a total boycott on its business in the Arab World -- to bring home the point that if the Arabs were not able to fight Zionist press manipulation 50 years ago, they are able and willing to do so today.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RAI, on Tuesday, said it seems the Americans spent a great deal of effort to convince the Egyptians and Israelis to accept a preliminary agenda for the current peace talks leaving details for later negotiations. It is observed that the compromise agenda produced by the Americans was meant to hedge the question of President Anwar Sadat's insistence on a comprehensive approach to peace in as far as the Palestinian problem is concerned while allowing Israel more chances for intransigence over the same problem. If disagreement over formalities has almost led to the breakdown of the peace talks some three days ago how is it expected that negotiations on substantial issues is going to succeed? Israel will not change its intransigent attitude and President Sadat has shown his determination on a comprehensive peace settlement. The situation now requires a strong Arab front of solidarity to be able to resist the efforts being made to destroy the cause.

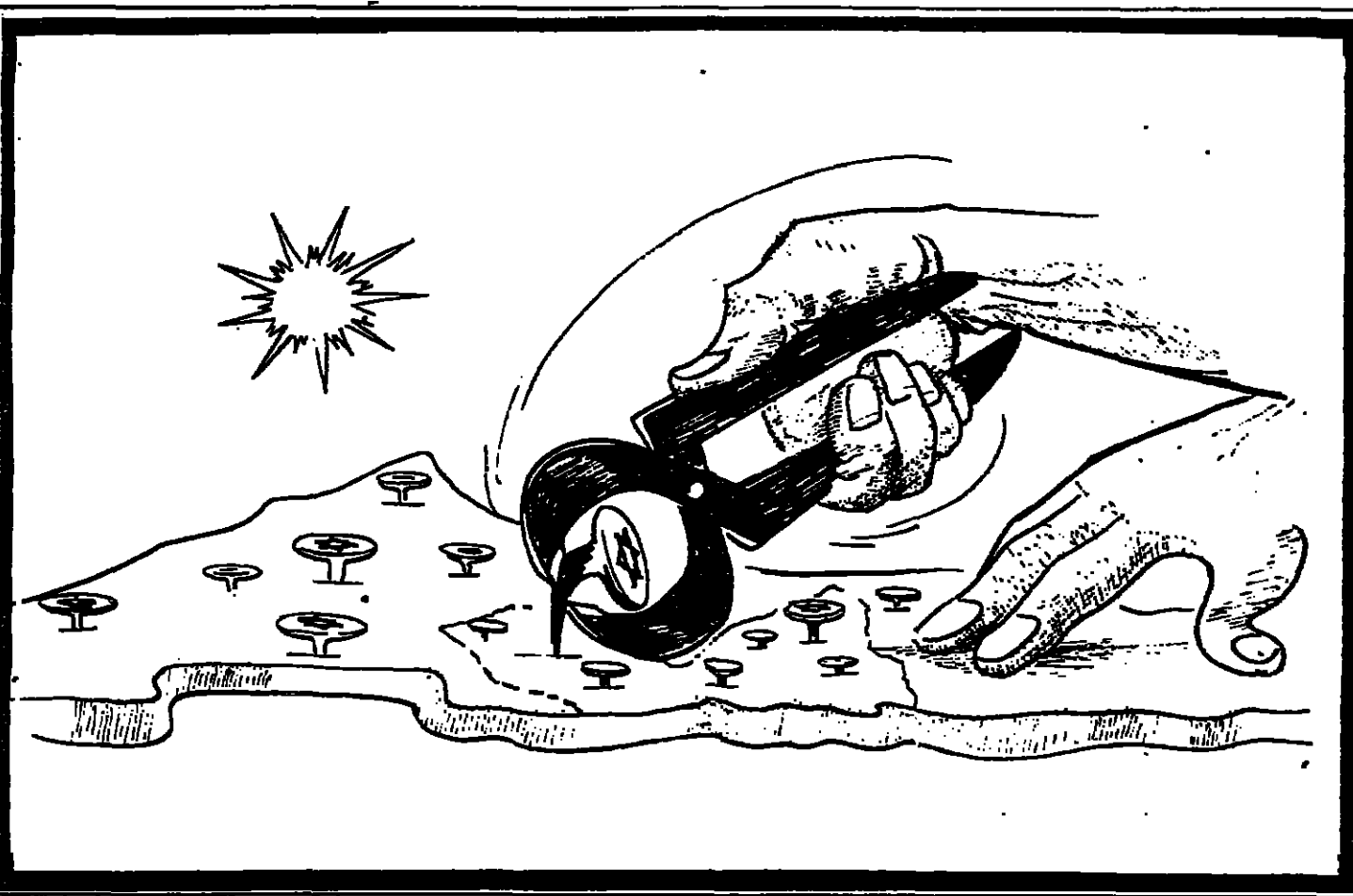
AL DUSTOUR said United States Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said, upon arrival in Israel on Monday, that the present is a historical moment for the Middle East. We would agree in so far as Israel faces a historical decision to finally choose between real peace and control of the occupied territories. If Israel chooses peace then it is possible for Israel to live in peace in our area. If Israel chooses the land then the area can only expect a prolonged struggle whose end cannot be foreseen. In such a way are these historical moments and the U.S. should pressure Israel to accept the peace rather than leave it to opt for war through a wrong choice.

U.S. GIRLS' BOARDING SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR VISITS AMMAN

An American school for 140 girls ages 13-18, THE HALL SCHOOL's primary objective is "to provide a traditional and challenging academic environment for university preparation."

Located on a large estate in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, THE HALL SCHOOL has been renowned since 1898 for academic and cultural excellence, international faculty and student body, and intelligent supervision. Director of Admissions Diederik van Renssele will be in Amman for student and family interviews at the Hotel Intercontinental 20, 21 & 22 January. Please call the hotel for an appointment.

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From explosives to public relations, women are active in all aspects of security

By Joyce Abou Jassar
Special to the Jordan Times

"As many come, we train them," said Second Lieutenant Heusnieh Shabeen, director of the Jordanian Police-women's Academy. The high standard and diversified training programme that the girls receive has brought attention and acclaim to the academy in the five years since it was established in 1972.

"Currently we are starting a new course of training with 24 cadettes. Twelve of them are Jordanians and twelve are girls sent especially from Syria."

Continued Second Lt. Shabeen, "Syria is planning to open a policewomen's academy and has sent 12 cadettes here to have their basic training. After they have established their own academy, we plan to continue cooperation between us and Syria in all areas: Training programmes, coordinated border duties and continuing visits."

Miss Shabeen also remarked that the academy had received praise and commendation from Mr. Lackey, a representative of Scotland Yard, for its diversity of training during an inspection tour here.

Judo training

The six months basic training includes sports, Swedish exercises, Judo and Karate. The girls also learn to handle and fire pistols, rifles and other weapons. Psychology, criminology, sociology, and other academic subjects complete the programme.

After graduating with a diploma, the new policewoman will work in various fields -- public security, intelligence work, licensing fire arms, public relations, welfare, immigration, fingerprinting, examining persons for driver's licenses, and on special occasions such as Army Day or if there are special visitors to Jordan they

sometimes help with traffic regulation. The Crime Laboratory in Jabal Luweibdeh is also staffed with Jordanian policewomen. Their numbers are currently 70 policewomen and eight officers.

On being interviewed for the Jordan Times the women revealed the wide variety of their duties and the diversified training that they receive. Corporal Hana Banat, 23 years old, has been four years in the police force. In addition to Judo, Karate, learning to handle firearms, and the academic course, she also went through a secretarial course.

She remarked, "My duties here in the General Headquarters Building deal with social problems and all family services. For instance, if a man comes here and has lost his job, has a lot of children and no money then I would fill in a form for him and then take him to the department that could best help him to solve his problems and give him financial aid."

Miss Banat also commented, "Society has changed a lot now. Girls don't stay in the house. Even if they marry, sometimes the husband likes his wife to work to help him."

Miss Nafah Jumaa, 20 years old, has also been four years in the force. She is now doing secretarial work, but before that she was at the Hashimiyeh Palace.

When asked about her responsibilities there she replied, "I was on Hashimiyeh Palace security for one year. Any visitors to the palace would check into my office for clearance. She enjoys the secretarial work in the administration building and looks forward to her next assignment.

The girls do not stay in the same position for extended periods. They are rotated in their duties every two, three, or six months and continually get more training and experience in all fields.

The microfilm machine is



Jordanian policewomen train in arrest and search procedures.

operated by Samira Abbady, 22 years old, who has been in the service for three years. She demonstrated how 15-year old documents taking up a lot of filing space are reduced to index cards. The originals are placed on a large square table under the microfilm camera. Miss Abbady then presses a button, lights go on, the machine buzzes and hums and in only 45 seconds the film is developed, washed, dried, and mounted on a computer card ready for filing. Samira was also trained to make any necessary repairs to the machine.

Explosives

"I work in explosives," was the surprising statement from Fatma Ali, 19 years old.

"If anyone wants to buy dynamite or other explosives, they must first come here to fill out an application. The application then goes to the different government departments: Police records, fire department, etc.

Then if the authorities agree, I give the applicant his license. "Before I came here, I was in airport security," concluded Fatma.

All types of firearms are licensed by Reham Lambaz who is 21 years old and has been in the Jordanian women's police force for a little over three years.

She issues licenses for pistols, hunting guns, and even machine guns and was kind enough to explain the two categories of the licenses: Permission for possession in the house or car, and the separate permit needed to carry a weapon, usually in this case a hunting gun.

Miss Lambaz said, "Before this I have been in intelligence, checking drivers' licenses, and airport security. Currently I am in the Public Security Department."

Lt. Ayish Hassan who has been in the regular Jordanian Police Force for 21 years commented, "The girls are trained to handle any duty that a policeman could handle. They are paid the same wages. There is no difference between them."

Lt. Hassan stated that at that time there were five girls in his office. Three of them were actually working in the office while the other two were at the airport on airport security police duty.

The girls work a regular day until 2 a.m. and then participate in different sports and competitions. They are also represented in parades during the year.

The requirements for entry into the Jordanian Police-women's Academy in Jabal Hussein are the following: The applicant must be a Jordanian citizen, 17 to 27 years of age, with a secondary school diploma or better, she must be in good health, as the work requires a lot of physical activity.

EEC to open permanent Amman office says official

By Ian Kellas
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Jan. 17 -- "We believe our relationship (with Jordan) should be considered as an example for what is called the new economic order," Mr. Hans Andresen, Head of the visiting EEC delegation told the Jordan Times last night.

Speaking at the end of what he called "very fruitful and constructive discussions", Mr. Andresen, who is in charge of the community's relations with the countries of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region, outlined the agreement which is now under discussion between Jordan and the Common Market, and said that a permanent EEC office would probably be established in Amman this summer.

A preliminary agreement, based on an approximately standard text for many of the countries of the Mediterranean region, was signed on Jan. 18 last year to promote economic cooperation between Jordan and the EEC. The community teams were here this time to discuss in more detail with the Jordanian authorities the projects which will form part of this programme.

Three forms of aid

The EEC has offered three main forms of financial assistance. It has made available to Jordan 18 million European units of account -- approximately equivalent to \$20 million -- which is to be given in loans by the European Investment Bank. The interest is about five or six per cent and repayment will be run over periods varying from 10 to 20 years.

Secondly it will provide \$5 million of special loans at a nominal interest rate of one per cent, to be paid back after 40 years. There is a ten year grace period on these loans.

Finally \$20 million is being made available as a grant. The projects to benefit, Mr. Andresen insisted, have been chosen by the Jordanian authorities. "We are not imposing anything," he said. "We are not the rich uncle saying this is good for you; that is good for you -- we are really cooperating."

Especially high in the list of priorities agreed was technical cooperation and training. Mr. Andresen pointed out that one of Jordan's most important resources was its "manpower" -- brain-power. Grants are likely to be made to the universities, to vocational training institutes and to the Royal Scientific Society. A new college may be established. "The most important aim is to promote training in all fields," Mr. Andresen said.

The bank loans will mainly be handled here by the Industrial Development Bank with the emphasis on capital investment and building up Jordan's industrial infrastructure. But there is also to be help for Jordan's farmers -- mainly in the form of low-interest loans, administered through the Agricultural Credit Corporation.

By the summer it is hoped that the detailed allocations of funds will be complete and the conclusive agreement can be signed. The agreement will cover the period to Oct. 31 1981. Mr. Andresen made it clear that this multilateral co-

operation was in no way a substitute for bilateral cooperation between Jordan and the individual members of the European Economic Community.

Jordan's trade cut

Asked about other aspects of Jordan's EEC relation Mr. Andresen referred to 17,000 tons of cereals which the community will contribute to Jordan during 1978 to be located to refugees. Milk powder and butter oil will also be provided. Similar aid was given in 1977 and was estimated to be worth upwards of \$3 million.

After 1967 Jordan's trade with Europe "cut", as Mr. Andresen put it, because of the closure first of the Suez canal and later of the port of Beirut. Jordan's main exports to the community have consisted of phosphate and tomatoes.

"We must try to reestablish trade links" between the community and Jordan, Mr. Andresen said; but he clearly felt that there was a much bigger future in Jordan's trade with the Gulf states and with Asia countries.

Solar energy cited

The community would be concentrating especially on linking small and medium-sized businesses in Europe and Jordan (bigger companies need less help). With Jordan's knowledge of the Southern Arab market, for instance, linked to European technical expertise much could be achieved in mutual advantage.

Mr. Andresen cited the example of solar energy. Jordan research in this field has given it a lead over its neighbour but it has not yet been able to exploit this commercially. Europe might be able to help Jordan establish industrial production of solar energy equipment. Work in this field would be of importance not only to Jordan but for the whole of the developing world, Mr. Andresen said.

He thought it likely that the community would establish permanent offices in Amman within a few months. This would be distinct from any of the European embassies and its scope would be to promote the whole range of cooperation in industrial investment. The community would, he suggested, conduct market studies, encourage technical research and assist Jordanians to attend international fairs and so on.

"Jordan is a country where things are going very well," Mr. Andresen continued. It would not be difficult to attract investment here.

He saw no conflict of interests between the community and Jordan.

Mr. Andresen and his delegation, which included four members of the European Investment Bank and four from the Commission itself had completed their business here in the short space of two and a half days. He spoke warmly of the capabilities of the officials with whom the delegation had been dealing (principally from the National Planning Council and from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry). "Here," he said, "is a real administration which knows its affairs."

The delegation flies on today to the Lebanon before returning to Brussels.

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مكتبة الامم

Jordan expects U.S., Europe, to play more active role for peace

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA). — The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim received in his office today heads of the diplomatic missions of the United States, West Germany, France, Italy, Belgium and the United Kingdom in Jordan. He briefed them on the latest developments of the Middle East situation and informed them that Jordan was expecting their governments to play a more active role in establishing just peace in the face of the intransigent Israeli and towards peace initiatives.

National News Roundup

Jordan seeks information on emigrant workers

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA). — The Jordanian government today sent a memorandum to the governments of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Libya, and the Gulf States asking them to provide Jordan with the number of Jordanians working in their countries.

Mitsui win contract for Aqaba

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA). — The Chemical Fertilisers Industries Company signed an agreement here today with the Japanese Mitsui Company, under which the latter will be responsible for technical and administrative advice for the chemical fertilisers industries project to be implemented at Aqaba. The project, which will cost \$300 million, will be completed in 1980.

Tourist guides to be trained

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA). — The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities will hold a training course for a number of tourist guides aimed at familiarising them with tourist issues and developing their cultural knowledge and linguistic abilities.

Yarmouk president to attend

Biology conference

IRBID, Jan. 17 (JNA). — The President of Yarmouk University Dr. Adnan Badran will leave here for Paris tomorrow to attend the conference of the International Union of Biology Sciences which will open on Jan. 18. During its two-day session, the meeting will discuss a study on the teaching of biology sciences throughout all school grades.

Ajlouni seeks to expand Labour Ministry

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA). — Minister of Labour Isam Ajlouni has asked the Cabinet's approval for starting a new department at his Ministry called the Department of International Relations.

Pakistani ambassador sees finance minister

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA). — Minister of Finance Mohammad Dabbas today met with Pakistan's ambassador to Jordan.

New Maternity centre opened

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA). — Acting Health Minister Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh today opened a new maternity centre in Kufranjeh. He also opened a medical laboratory.

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Australians find world's oldest ant

Australian scientists have found the world's most primitive living ant in South Australia, ending a 46-year search by entomologists from throughout the world.

CANBERRA (AP) — The ant, known as *Nothomyrmecia macrops*, is described as a living fossil and is believed to have survived almost unchanged for about 80,000,000 years. Even including fossils, it is the second most primitive recorded. Dr. Bob Taylor, of the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation's Division of Entomology, found the ant during an expedition on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula. The party was on its way to Esperance, Western Australia, where the only two previous specimens had been collected in 1931. Dr. Taylor found the ant 1,300 kms. from the site where they were seeking it.

Econoscope By Jawad Ahmad

Where is that inflationary factor with the black hat?

Our ears have grown accustomed to the usual jargon that Jordan suffers from a monetary inflation. I want to propose here that inflation is no more monetary than the Arabs responsible for Nazi concentration camps.

A cursory look at last year's monetary variables reveals this idea quite clearly and indicates that monetary aggregates are non contractionary rather than expansionary.

Money supply increased from November, 1976 to November, 1977 by JD 49 million, or 18.2 per cent. Of its two components, demand deposits increased by JD 25 million, or 24 per cent, while currency in circulation increased by only 16.5 per cent.

A look at the Nov. 76-Nov. 77 change in the consumer price index (CPI) reveals that the inflation rate encountered by consumers was 30.1 per cent. In other words the inflation rate is way higher than the increase in prices.

Credit extended by commercial banks increased over the same period from JD 181 million to JD 204 million, or roughly 13 per cent. This means that commercial credit was tight. In the three years prior to 1977, its rate of increase averaged 26 per cent.

But one still has to ask about the velocity of circulation. Of course the velocity of currency in circulation increased with the

inflationary wave. But the velocity of commercial credit did not. Even if the vector of velocity pointed upward, it would not be the responsibility of monetary authorities. Velocity is usually determined by institutional, social and technological factors most of which fall outside the realm of money.

If money is not responsible for inflation, then what is?

The villain is not disguised. It is the cost factor. There seems to be an excess demand in all markets.

There is excess demand for credit in the money market, but supply is controlled.

There is excess demand for commodities despite the continuous increase in prices. With the time lag between money changes and commodity market changes, it is expected that prices of commodities will have to decrease.

The major cost factor which remains is that of labour. Unless a way is found to control the inflationary trend in the labour market, inflation will continue.

If wages are tamed, then a new deflationary force will be added to the commodity market.

With both wages and money supply well behaved the CPI will be brought to a reasonable level.

Egyptian journalist gives account of travel to Israel

By Bahgat Badie

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 17 (R). — "Welcome to Israel," said the police officer at Ben Gurion airport. I gave a sigh of relief, it signalled the end of a trying day getting here from Egypt.

In Cairo I was the first Egyptian to get a plane ticket from Egypt to Tel Aviv via Athens, the American airline told me.

At the airport bank in Cairo, I handed over my passport and ticket to exchange Egyptian pounds for U.S. dollars.

"Where are you going?" the bank clerk asked routinely. "To Tel Aviv," I replied. "Look I have no time to waste, I am a busy man and I am not in a joking mood. Just tell me where you are going," the clerk said angrily.

I answered back: "Israel."

This time he dropped his pen, stopped counting the \$100 allowed for Egyptians travelling abroad, and snapped: "Alright step out from the queue and let the next man take your place, since you insist on wasting my time." He summoned his superior.

"Look I have neither the patience, nor the time. It's almost the end of my shift, you deal with this man," the clerk told him.

"What is the problem?" he asked me. I explained that I simply told the clerk I was going to Israel and he refused to believe me. "See for yourself, here is the ticket."

He gasped, gazed at it for several minutes. "By God, it is true he is going to Tel Aviv." He took away the ticket and went around the bank showing it to all his colleagues.

"We owe you an apology, and we pray to God you came back safe to us. But bring back peace with you," he said. "Do you think they really want peace or are they marking time?"

Many Egyptians from housewives to tax drivers were asking the same question.

The trepidation about peace prospects stemmed from President Anwar Sadat's recent charges that Israel had delayed in responding to his peace moves.

Arriving in Jerusalem to report tomorrow's peace talks, I remembered I had a Jewish classmate in Cairo about 30 years ago who told me he was going to Israel. I asked a police officer, who was once an Egyptian himself, if he knew my old school friend.

"Oh, Col. Marc Memran, he is a police officer. He is in charge of security in Jerusalem."

It was no trouble locating him.

When we met in front of surprised security men at my hotel, he joyfully carried me around the lounge.

In a guided tour organised by the Israeli authorities in occupied Jerusalem, a red painted sign on the wall of a house in the old city said in Arabic "Death to the traitors."

A 70-year-old Palestinian who came out from the Aqsa Mosque afternoon prayers told me: "We are under occupation. Of course we have problems, but we are helpless. Sadat is the first Arab leader who showed some concern about our problems," he said and walked away refusing to give me his name.

He said two of his sons were released from prison after President Sadat's visit to Israel.

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Sonoda stresses Japan will depend on Middle East oil a long time

RIYADH, Jan. 17 (Agencies). — Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda arrived here today from Abu Dhabi on the last stage of a week-long tour of Gulf oil producers aimed at ensuring long-term guarantees for Japan's energy supplies.

In a statement made before leaving Abu Dhabi, Mr. Sonoda said his talks with leaders of the United Arab Emirates had been positive. He said that he

hoped the UAE would continue its "friendly attitude" in meeting some of Japan's oil requirements.

UAE Foreign Minister Ah-

mad Khalifa Al Suweidi "expressed full understanding in this matter," the statement said.

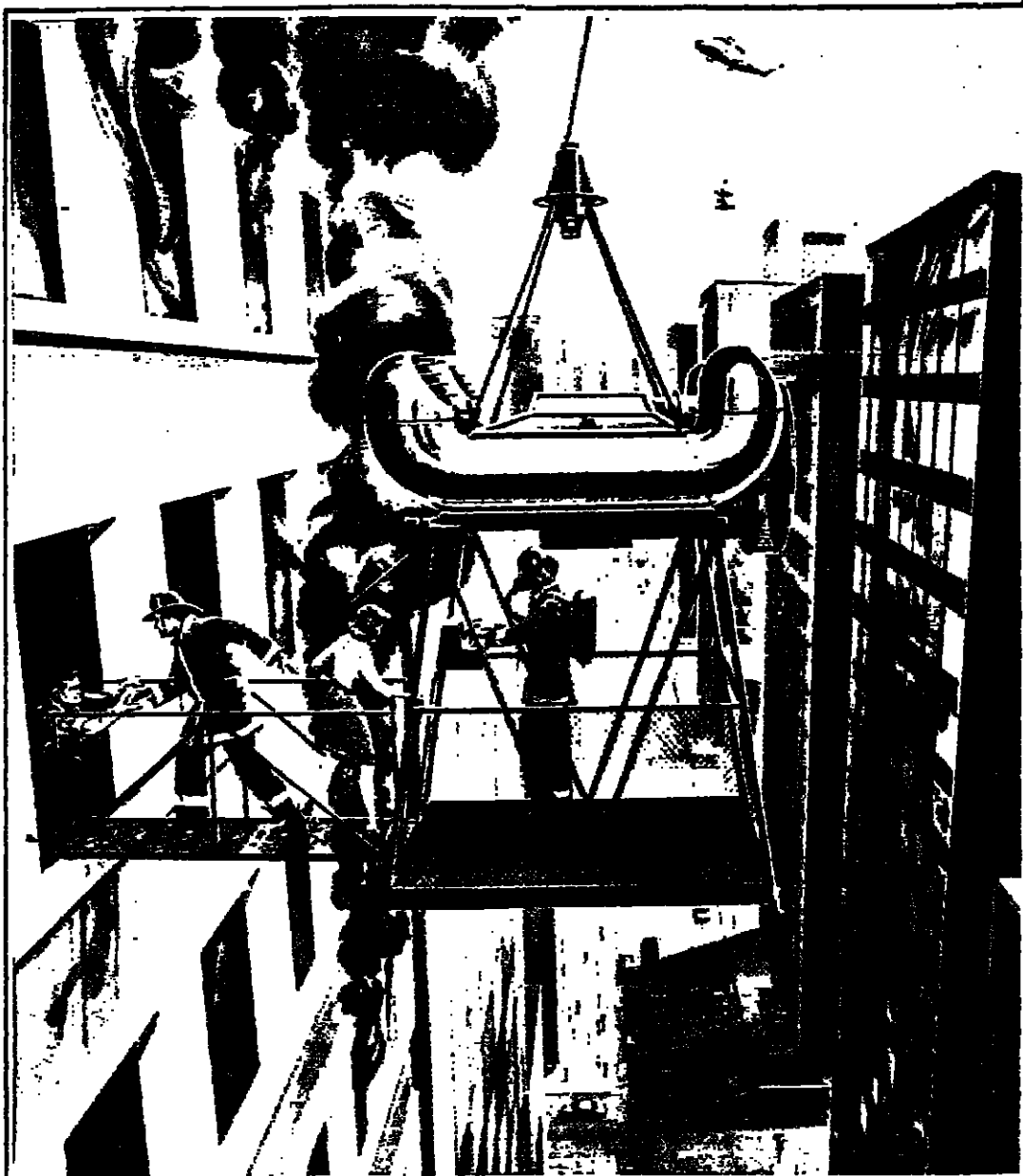
The statement followed reports here that Japan was worried about a 1.5 million ton reduction in its oil imports from the UAE last year. There were also prospects of further reductions following the declared intention of Abu Dhabi, which produces more than 75 per cent of the Gulf federation's oil, to cut back production by more than 10 per cent this year.

Mr. Sonoda told a press conference here yesterday that his country would remain dependent on Middle East oil for a long time to come.

Officials here said Mr. Sonoda, whose country imports about a fifth of the oil produced by Saudi Arabia, was due to have talks with Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal and other members of the royal family on bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest.

Mr. Sonoda said in an interview published here today that his visit to Saudi Arabia was the most important in his current Middle East tour.

Mr. Sonoda arrived here from Abu Dhabi after visits to Iran and Kuwait in the course of an eight-day tour.



A flying fire engine and rescue vehicle to carry as many as eight fire fighters or paramedics to remove as many as 16 persons from burning high-rise buildings is being developed by the McDonnell Douglas Company's St. Louis (Missouri) plant. The vehicle (as in this drawing) is suspended by cable from a helicopter and has its own power for limited maneuvering. (IPS photo)

Further instability of dollar could mean havoc to foreign trade, says Japan's Fukuda

TOKYO, Jan. 17 (R). — Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda declared today that any further instability in the exchange value of the U.S. dollar could create havoc in foreign trade.

At the same time he stressed that the planned seven per cent growth in Japan's economy in 1978 was a target rather than a commitment.

Reviewing recent U.S.-Japan trade at a luncheon here, Mr. Fukuda said "the instability of the dollar cannot continue any further for it will create havoc with foreign trade."

He did not elaborate. In the past year the dollar has declined in value against the yen by 21 per cent.

The prime minister stressed his intention to stimulate domestic demand during the financial year beginning in April. He said exports could no longer be the driving force behind the economy.

Referring to official plans for real economic growth of seven per cent in fiscal 1978, he stated that this was a policy target, "not a promise or a commitment as such."

But as a policy target it is important for stabilizing the economy, and we will be mobilizing every possible means to achieve it," he added.

At the last summit meeting

of the major non-communist industrialized nations in London in May, Mr. Fukuda said that Japan would achieve 6.7 per cent real growth this year, but he acknowledged that that actual growth for the year would only be 5.3 per cent.

Iraqi exports rise 58%

BAGHDAD, Jan. 17 (R). — Iraqi exports, excluding oil, rose by 58 per cent last year as compared with 1976, the Iraq News Agency reported. It said last year's exports were worth 21,678,000 dollars (about \$65 million). Exports included chemicals, fertilizers, agricultural machinery, trucks, building materials, bicycles and electrical equipment. Iraq is to open five trade centres abroad this year, bringing its total number to 16, the agency said. They will be in Rabat, Tunis, Muscat, San'a and Tehran.

— ADVERTISEMENT —

For pre-qualification of Specialised Contracting Firms

The Amman Water & Sewerage Authority (AWSA) invites submission of pre-qualification data by specialised contracting firms which can qualify, through experience with projects of similar type and magnitude, for the construction of certain civil works and supply of and installation of equipment in connection with a project for the transmission of water from King Talal Dam to Amman, Jordan for the AWSA. Pre-qualification data is invited from U.S. contractors, Jordanian contractors and contractors from countries eligible under AID Geographic Code 941 or joint ventures of such firms who can qualify through experience with projects of similar nature and type.

The works included in this invitation consist of the following items:

- 1— Construction of pretreatment and treatment plants with supply installation and testing of equipment.
- 2— Construction of pumping stations, with supply installation and testing of equipment.
- 3— Construction of reservoirs, housing and access roads, electrical and communication systems.
- 4— Operation and maintenance of supply system from intake at King Talal Dam to terminal reservoirs in Amman for a period of one year.

Estimated construction time 20 months.

The project components described above will be jointly financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the government of Jordan.

The contractor or contractors to whom the contract may be awarded will be paid in U.S. dollars and Jordanian Dinars. In submitting pre-qualification data, AID pre-qualification questionnaire for construction contractors (2A, CH2, HB11, TM11:1) must be filled out completely and submitted with any brochures and additional information on experience and resources. In the event a joint venture seeks pre-qualification, the questionnaire must be supplied with respect to all firms in the joint venture. These forms are available from the AWSA in Amman and at AID in Washington. Completed pre-qualification data must be submitted to:

The General Manager
Amman Water & Sewerage
Authority
P. O. Box — 2412
Amman — Jordan

with copy to:

Agency for International Development
NE / CD Department of State
Washington D. C. 20523
Att: Mr. Robert Fedel

Envelope must be clearly marked as follows:

"TENDER 1"

Pre-qualification King Talal/Amman Water Supply."

— Pre-qualification data must be submitted no later than 12:00 noon of March 15, 1978. AWSA will consider data postmarked no later than March 1, 1978. A short list of qualified contractors will be prepared by the AWSA, and all contractors will be advised by May 1, 1978 whether and when they will be invited to submit bids.

Algeria, Bulgaria sign protocol

ALGIERS, Jan. 17 (R). — Algeria and Bulgaria yesterday signed a cooperation protocol, at the end of a six-day visit here by Bulgarian Finance Minister Belcho Belch at the head of large industrial delegation.

Mr. Belchov and Algerian Trade Minister M'hamed Hadj Vala signed the protocol yesterday. Mr. Belchov said Bulgaria could provide Algeria with engineering products, especially agricultural machinery, electronics, electro-technical material and finished products.

— ADVERTISEMENT —

For pre-qualification of Specialised Contracting Firms

The Amman Water & Sewerage Authority (AWSA) invites submission of pre-qualification data by specialised contracting firms which can qualify, through experience with projects of similar type and magnitude, for the construction of certain civil works and supply and installation of pipelines and other equipment in connection with a project for the transmission of water from King Talal Dam to Amman-Jordan for AWSA.

Pre-qualification data is invited from contractors from countries eligible under Saudi Fund for Development or joint ventures of such firms who can qualify through experience with projects of similar nature and type. The works included in this invitation consist of the following items:

- 1— Construction of water intake, with supply installation and testing of equipment.
- 2— Construction of approximately 25 kms. of 800 mm steel pipe with supply and testing.

Estimated construction time is 18 months.

The project components described above will be jointly financed by the Saudi Fund for Development and the government of Jordan. The contractor to whom the contract may be awarded will be paid in the FX currency of the contractor and in Jordan Dinars. In submitting pre-qualification data, AWSA pre-qualification questionnaire for construction contractors must be filled out completely and submitted with any brochures and additional information on experience and resources. In the event of joint venture seeks pre-qualification, the questionnaire must be supplied with respect to all firms in the joint venture. These forms are available from the AWSA in Amman.

Completed pre-qualification data must be submitted to:

The General Manager
Amman Water & Sewerage
Authority
P. O. Box — 2412
Amman — Jordan

Envelopes must be clearly marked as follows:

"TENDER 2"

Pre-qualification King Talal/Amman Water Supply."

— Pre-qualification data must be submitted no later than 12:00 noon of March 15, 1978. AWSA will consider data postmarked no later than March 1, 1978. A short list of qualified contractors will be prepared by the AWSA, and all contractors will be advised by May 1, 1978 whether and when they will be invited to submit bids.

McNamara to visit Egypt for talks on economic situation

Egyptians live 3 out of 7 days on foreign aid

CAIRO, Jan. 17 (AFP). — World Bank President Robert McNamara arrives here tomorrow for talks on how to help Egypt out of its worrying economic and financial situation. Since his last visit in 1974, the Egyptian economy has become more dependent on foreign aid. One-third of the gross national product is in the form of outside assistance, against one-quarter in 1974. Today, the Egyptians live about three days out of seven on foreign aid.

Government crisis shelves Italy's economic troubles

ROME, Jan. 17 (R). — The Italian government crisis has shelved vital decisions on an economy saddled with heavy international debts, high inflation and a huge public sector deficit.

The next government will have to tackle immediately the thorny problem of reducing state spending with unpopular tax increases and cuts in pensions and social services, economists believe.

It will also face a series of international loan payments totalling \$4 billion. The government had already said it wanted to re-negotiate some of them.

The crisis which forced Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti to resign yesterday grew out of opposition from the left-wing Republican Party to his minority Christian Democratic government's 1978 budget proposals.

Signor Andreotti is now expected to be asked to try to form a new cabinet.

Early last month the Republicans called for an emergency government with cabinet seats for the Communists who could be expected to appease union leaders angered by high inflation and unemployment.

The Communists and Socialists followed the Republicans' lead and their combined parliamentary muscle brought Signor Andreotti down when his Christian Democratic Party refused to accept Communists in the cabinet.

Control of the state deficit is the key to the restoration of a healthy Italian economy and to success in future negotiations for further international loans.

Last year the government ran a public sector deficit of about 20,000 billion lire (\$2.9 billion), well above the limit set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) when it granted a stand-by credit of \$530 million last April.

For 1978, the Andreotti government had set a target upper limit on the deficit of 24,000 billion lire (\$2.4 billion). But they could achieve that only with tax increases and reductions in social services.

An IMF delegation is due here in the next few weeks and can be expected to exert heavy pressure on any new government to reform the public spending situation.

With the fall of the Andreotti government, union leaders have suspended plans for a one-day strike in protest against its economic policy.

But they have laid out conditions for supporting a new government — measures to reduce the 1.6 million unemployed, aid for businesses in a financial plight and development of the poor south.

In return, the unions have said they would be ready to back strict wage controls over the next three years.

Union chiefs have called on political parties to find an urgent solution to the government crisis and hope an early general election will be avoided.

The schedule for Italy's debt repayments underlines their sense of urgency. In March the country has to meet deadlines for paying back nearly \$1.25 billion to the IMF, the Common Market and the West German Bundesbank.

External trade industry figures show that last year the nation received \$5.4 billion from abroad, although this sum includes commitments over a long period.

The 1977 total incorporates \$1 billion of food and project aid from the United States, along with \$2 billion from the Gulf Organisation for the Development of Egypt (GODE).

President Anwar Sadat's "opening up" policy has yet to bear fruit and in fact it seems only to have worsened things so far. For example, in the first nine months of 1977, imports were up 33 per cent and exports only 18 per cent instead of the 40 per cent hoped for by the government.

Foreign trade is expected to show a deficit of \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion in 1977 against \$1 billion in 1976.

Under the current five-year plan, it is intended to stabilise the deficit at the 1977 level 1978-79. The position will be around in 1980, it is said, in 1982 Egypt will depend on other countries solely for development and investment and not for its very survival which is the case at present.

As 1978 gets under way, Egypt has a few months' respite thanks to the aid received last year.

But a big question is whether the Arab states of the Gulf are prepared to maintain their aid effort, especially the light of the international political scene where President Sadat's talks with Israel have been viewed with mixed feelings in the Arab World.

Another unknown factor is whether the money provided by Egyptian expatriates in Libya, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and elsewhere is going to continue rolling in at the same rate, last year's figure being an estimated \$1 billion.

Some economists take the view that Egypt's underlying problem is the huge population rise. Efforts to counter it have been hampered by religious and similar beliefs, it is said.

Mr. McNamara may well see his talks here on this question. The World Bank chief is arriving for his first visit exactly one year after the riots triggered off by a 10 per cent rise in basic food prices. Food is subsidised to a significant extent by the government. In theory these subsidies should end as a means toward financial health.

But such a measure would prove extremely dangerous: inflation still beats the rise in wages.

U.N. Security Council

agrees to consider economic sanctions against South Africa

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 17

(R). — U.N. Security Council members agreed yesterday to consider economic sanctions against South Africa including an oil investment embargo, informed sources said.

But Western objections are expected to ensure that neither measure is adopted during the discussion on Jan. 26.

The sources said South Africa would probably be warned that its own supplies of oil would be cut off if it continued to fuel neighbouring Rhodesia.

Nigeria is the current president of the council which will be meeting for the first time since its composition was changed in General Assembly elections last month.

Opponents of apartheid want to end foreign investment in South Africa. But two car companies, Ford of America and BMW of West Germany, announced in the republic yesterday that they intended to remain in South Africa and expand.

In December, the General Assembly recommended an oil embargo of South Africa because of its economic support for Rhodesia which has been under comprehensive U.N. economic sanctions for more than 10 years.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

	Jordanian
	Buying/Selling
U.S. dollar	313.00/31
U.K. sterling	607.00/61
W. German mark	148.50/149
Swiss franc	158.70/159
French franc	66.50/67
Italian lire (for every 100)	35.70/36
Japanese yen (for every 100)	130.00/131
Dutch guilder	138.50/139
Belgian franc (for every ten)	85.00/86
Swedish crown	67.50/68

Ecevit's government wins parliamentary vote of confidence

ANKARA, Jan. 17 (Agency). — The new moderate-left government of Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit won a vote of confidence in the Turkish National Assembly today.

Mr. Ecevit formed his government after the government of former Prime Minister Sulayman Demirel fell on Dec. 31 on a motion of censure.

Prime Minister Ecevit's government programme, pledging urgent solutions to the country's problems, was adopted by 229 votes to 218 in the 450-seat lower house of parliament.

One of the major problems now facing the new Turkish government is the Cypriot settlement issue. With a visit to Ankara last week by United Nations Kurt Waldheim hopes for the resumption of the de-locked Cypriot talks have had a push forward.

"There is now a new situation. Turkish Premier Ecevit will come out with concrete proposals both on territorial and constitutional aspects of the Cypriot issue," Dr. Waldheim told reporters in Athens today.

Dr. Waldheim added that the new situation "gives rise to optimism."

Also, United States Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will make a one-day visit here on Friday.

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Dr. Waldheim added that the new situation "gives rise to optimism."

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Strong quake hits Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 17 (AFP). — A strong earthquake rocked the Argentine Province of San Juan, near the Chilean border, shortly after 08:30 local time this morning. It was announced here.

No information was available about damage or casualties. San Juan Province, which was hit by another earthquake last Nov. 23 that killed almost 100 people, has a history of such incidents.



United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim (right) replies to Greek Foreign Minister Panayotis Papaligouras' welcoming message at Athens Airport on Monday. Dr. Waldheim's visit to the Greek capital is the last part of his three-nation tour -- after Turkey and Cyprus to help resume negotiations on the Cypriot problem. (AP wirephoto)

Waldheim briefs Greek leaders on "new Cypriot situation"

ATHENS, Jan. 17 (R). — U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim today continued his talks with Greek leaders aimed at the resumption of inter-communal talks on the Cypriot problem.

Dr. Waldheim, who arrived yesterday on the last leg of his tour to Turkey, Cyprus and Greece, today called on foreign Minister Panayotis Papaligouras.

Later they were joined by U.N. and Greek Foreign Ministry officials.

Dr. Waldheim then briefed President Constantine Tsatsos on discussions he held in Ankara and Nicosia.

"There is now a new situation," Dr. Waldheim told reporters after a 90-minute meeting with Greek Premier Constantine Karamanlis earlier today.

He said Turkish Premier Bulent Ecevit would soon "come out with concrete proposals both on territorial and constitutional aspects of the Cypriot issue."

Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf

Denktash is due to fly to Ankara tomorrow for talks with Mr. Ecevit's government on the proposals Dr. Waldheim mentioned. Details of the proposals have not yet been made public.

Vance to talk Cyprus in Ankara, Athens

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 17 (R). — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance today announced he will visit Greece as well as Turkey after participating in Middle East peace talks here.

The announcement effectively extends Mr. Vance's Middle

East visit at least until next Saturday, raising speculation that he wants to remain in the area in case he needs to return to Jerusalem next week to attend further Egyptian-Israeli talks.

Mr. Vance's visit to Ankara, planned for Friday, was announced earlier today when Mr. Vance told reporters here he will have talks with the new government of Mr. Bulent Ecevit.

The visit to Ankara comes amid signs of movement on the Cypriot issue and follows an official U.S. statement expressing satisfaction with Mr. Ecevit's stated willingness to work for a resolution of the dispute. Mr. Ecevit had earlier told United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim he would offer concrete proposals on reconvening talks between the Greek and Turkish communities in the island.

The Turkish invasion of Cyprus was launched under a previous government headed by Mr. Ecevit in July, 1974, after a coup temporarily ousted the late President Archbishop Makarios.

Finland re-elects President Kekkonen

HELSINKI, Jan. 17 (R). — Veteran Finnish President Urho Kekkonen has won another six-year term and resounding endorsement for his long-standing policy of cooperation with the neighbouring Soviet Union.

The 77-year-old president secured certain nomination next Feb. 15 from the Electoral College in a two-day election which ended last night.

Candidates supporting Dr. Kekkonen, who has been president since 1956, won 260 of

the Electoral College's 300 seats.

Every major party, from the Socialist Communists to mainstream Conservatives, backed Dr. Kekkonen.

The election revealed overwhelming national approval of Dr. Kekkonen's avowed policy of reconciliation and cooperation with the Soviet Union and of the personal relationships he has cultivated with the Kremlin leadership.

Finland and the Soviet Union were at war in 1939-40 and 1941-44.

Foreign affairs dominated the campaign, overshadowing domestic issues like unemployment which has reached seven per cent.

Dr. Kekkonen's opponents have accused him of being too eager to please the Soviets and say his long years in office have brought an accumulation of presidential influence that threatens parliamentary democracy.

They also say his determined advocacy of centre-left governments containing Communists has given the leftwing undue influence in the administration.

Firms usually return a parliament with a centre-right majority.

Of Dr. Kekkonen's opponents, Mr. Raimo Westerholm, leader of the Christian Unity Party, upset the opinion polls by winning 24 electoral college seats. He is an outspoken supporter of Israel.

Mr. Velkko venamo, of the Rural Party, took 10 seats and the remaining six went to Dr. Ahti Salonen, Social Democrat.

Turnout was low at 63.9 per cent.

Though he had called for a high turnout to demonstrate solidarity with his foreign policy, Dr. Kekkonen said he was "quite satisfied".

Baader-Meinhof group never had suicide pact, W. German inquiry told

STUTTGART, West Germany, Jan. 17 (R). — West German urban guerrilla Imgard Moeller denied here yesterday that she and three other members of the Baader-Meinhof gang planned to kill themselves in Stuttgart's Stammheim Prison last October.

Frau Moeller also told a committee investigating the deaths of urban guerrilla leaders Andreas Baader, Jan Carl Raspe and Gudrun Ensslin, that she did not stab herself with a knife.

An official inquiry has ruled that Raspe and Baader shot themselves. Frau Ensslin hanged herself with a length of cable and Frau Moeller plunged a knife into her chest a few hours after the failure of an attempt by plane hijackers to free them from prison.

Frau Moeller, 30, who has filed a legal action against persons unknown for attempted murder, told the committee there had been no suicide pact -- "suicide totally contradicts our policy," she claimed.

She also said it would have been impossible to smuggle weapons, explosives or radios

into the prison as the authorities have claimed. Federal Prosecutor Kurt Rehmann has accused two lawyers of smuggling weapons and explosives into the prison in their underpants and in bundles of legal documents.

Humphrey asked for no eulogy

ST. PAUL, Minnesota, Jan. 17 (R). — Former Vice President Hubert Humphrey, the liberal Democrat who failed in three attempts to become president of the United States, was buried here yesterday in rites that ignored his wishes in at least one respect.

But President Carter and Vice President Walter Mondale both paid tribute to one of the nation's most loved politicians, praising his good heart, humanity and concern for the people who sent him to Washington.

Some 3,000 mourners filled House of Hope Presbyterian Church for an Ecumenical funeral service which was broadcast on national television.

Mrs. Muriel Humphrey, the senator's wife, sat with her family to the left of the altar and President Carter and Vice President Mondale to the right. The pall-draped casket topped with a folded American flag sat in the centre before the altar.

Thousands of others kept a quiet vigil outside in sub-zero weather throughout the two-hour ceremony, and later thousands of people attended the brief burial service at Lakeview Cemetery in Minneapolis.

President Carter devoted his remarks to recalling a two-day visit with Sen. Humphrey at the Camp David Presidential Retreat late last year.

The president said he was almost surprised to be reminded that Sen. Humphrey was a moving force behind such ideas as arms control, the peace corps, and food for peace.

Conflict of views reportedly governs Saudi-American tie

BEIRUT, Jan. 17 (AFP). — Saudi Arabia and the United States are "embroiled in the worst conflict in the history of their relations over the Middle East question," the usually well-informed Beirut-based daily bulletin Middle East Reporter wrote today.

Quoting "travellers arriving here from Jeddah," the bulletin said in a reference to the recent talks in the Saudi capital between President Carter and Saudi leaders that "never before was there such a sharp and serious difference in views."

Saudi Arabia told President Carter it is prepared to raise its oil production "to any level that is feasible possible," if President Carter will solve the Palestinian problem, the sources said.

Immediately after President Carter's departure from Riyadh the Royal Family Council -- only convened in exceptional circumstances -- met at length to discuss the Carter-Saudi talks.

"The Saudi monarch was bitterly critical of President Sadat's peace initiative with Israel," the sources quoted by the bulletin said but "Crown Prince Fahd's moderation was predominant."

"Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal was most outspokenly opposed to Carter's attempts and Sadat's initiative," the paper said.

The travellers quoted U.S. Ambassador John West as saying, "the foreign minister used very harsh words in criticising Sadat's peace moves on which Saudi Arabia was not consulted."

At the same time, the royal family were themselves divided on the policy which the kingdom should adopt regarding Sadat's direct peace talks with Israel. The sources said that Mr. Kamal Adham, Political Adviser to King Khaled, was in "favour of a more ex-

press support for the Egyptian leader." King Khaled was "strongly opposed".

Crown Prince Fahd, ever, "was glad Saudi Arabia was not consulted, and he was quoted as saying: 'God be (Sadat) did not suit us. If he did, we have advised him again and our relations with him would have been damaged. Saudi opposition would jeopardise his regime and inforced the position of Egyptian left. We came out to have another 38 million people.'

South Africa tries black leader's wit

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Jan. 17 (R). — Madants and teachers paid courtroom to overflowing today when the trial of militant Winnie Mandela, wife of imprisoned anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela, was not guilty to five charges breaking a government restricting her to the three Free State town of Port Elizabeth. The charges were of attending "illegal meetings" and receiving "arms, both contravening the government order since she is not officially sanctioned according to the indictment." Mandela said before the adjournment in October a visit had been approved by the state and on the other hand the visitors were seen 17-year-old daughter

World News Briefs

Laos denies Viet troops crossed border

BANGKOK, Jan. 17 (R). — Laos today denied that its names troops had been moved through Laos to reinforce forces in the border fighting with Cambodia. A report by the official news agency published in the government newspaper Sieng Prasasone referred to a Reuters report Jan. 11 which quoted military sources in Bangkok as saying that Vietnam had sent a division of troops to north Laos through Laos. "The Lao government has strictly held to the policy of maintaining unity with Cambodia since the formation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in December 1975," the statement said, that the incorrect report was an attempt to create misunderstanding and divide the peoples of Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia.

Few U.S. congressmen took Korean bribe

SEOUL, Jan. 17 (AFP). — Very few U.S. congressmen criminal prosecution because of disclosures made until South Korean lobbyist Park Tongsun, an American official here today. As questioning of Mr. Park by U.S. prosecutors entered its fourth day here, Assistant Attorney General in Civiletti told newsmen that few indications had emerged of criminal misconduct by congressmen. Mr. Civiletti said American news reports on the interrogation were totally false. There have been reports that Mr. Park admitted up to \$1 million to some 100 American legislators, of whom got more than \$3,000.

U.S. to ban study on Soviet arms?

NEW YORK, Jan. 17 (AFP). — The U.S. State Dept is trying to stop publication of a study indicating that Soviet Union supplies about as many weapons to developing countries as the United States does, the New York Times reported today. The State Department and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA) feared that the study would hawk in Congress to oppose efforts by the Carter administration to reduce U.S. arms exports, the Times said. The study was prepared by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and another CIA report made public last October that the Union supplied less than half as many weapons to developing countries as the United States. The new estimate results "a change in accounting procedures," the CIA has reportedly planned.

Ecuador increases number of voters

QUITO, Jan. 17 (AFP). — The new Constitution of Ecuador approved on Sunday in a nation-wide referendum, gave right to vote to people who cannot read or write and to one-third more voters to the country's electoral rolls. The major step in the electoral process will be the first election, on July 16, which is expected to see a split between the two towering figures on today's political scene, the Social Reformist Assad Bucaram, arrested on Sunday allegedly interfering with voting operations, and the Conservative U.S.-trained architect Sixto Duran, the M. Quito.

Philippines elections on April 2

MANILA, Jan. 17 (R). — President Ferdinand Marcos announced April 2 as the date for national elections in the Philippines for an interim National Assembly -- the first held since he clamped martial law on the country in 1972. President made the announcement during a speech at the Philippines Constitutional Association here. One opposition figure, ex-President Diosdado Macapagal, said he will not take part in the elections which he decried "farfetched" under martial law.

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN JORDAN REAL ESTATE ESTABLISHMENT COMPANY Ltd AMMAN — JORDAN

Construction of: COMPREHENSIVE COMMERCIAL CENTER IN AMMAN NOTICE TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS:

- Suitable qualified building Contractors are hereby invited to submit applications for prequalification for the above project.
- The Comprehensive Commercial Center will be located in the city of Amman on a plot lying between the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel and Prince Mohammad Street. The said Center will accommodate stores, shops, garages, apartments and offices to be rented by the owner himself and/or to be sold.
- The Comprehensive Commercial Center will comprise:
 - Block A of seven floors out of which one basement assigned to stores and facilities, three floors assigned to shops and lobbies and three floors assigned to offices.
 - Block B known as "The Tower" of 25 floors out of which one basement assigned to technical facilities and workshops, six floors assigned to a public garage, two floors assigned to social and meeting areas, one floor assigned to a restaurant and hotel.
 - Block C of six floors totally assigned to a public garage.
 - Minor blocks are allotted to a Health Club, water reservoirs, stair and elevator cases etc. The total floor area is 48,000 sq. m.
- The civil engineering works involve mainly: reinforced concrete outstanding structures, masonry, flooring, paving, plastering, wall cladding, painting, doors and windows, glazing, moisture protection, insulation, drainage and sewages and other.
The mechanical works involve mainly: heating, ventilation, cold and hot water distribution, plumbing, sanitaris, elevators, escalators and other.
The electrical plants works involve mainly: MV — LV transformation plant, low voltage distribution system, fire and alarm system, lightning system, telephone system and other.
- JREC will select from data submitted a short list of foreign Contractors or joint-ventures between local and foreign contractors which should have demonstrated their own financial suitability, technical reliability, previous satisfactory experience in construction of high-standard tall buildings even abroad. It is emphasized that standards of the reinforced concrete structure required by the design has not been used in Jordan before so a particular skill in this field is to be evidenced in order to be included in the short list. Contractors are also expected to produce certificates of satisfaction and photographs released and signed by their Clients.
- The contract will be on a fixed lump-sum basis, not subject to remeasurement.
- The owner will supply through his Consulting Engineer all the relevant tender documents such as design, specifications and conditions of contract, whereas the bidders are expected to justify their lump-sum offer by filling blank Bill of Quantities forms with relevant quantities and unit prices.
- The prequalified contractors shall nominate mechanical and electrical subcontractors and present their qualifications which shall be approved by the owner.
- Contractors are also expected to perform and submit proper shop-drawings to be approved by the Engineer during the works according to the conditions of contract.
- Interested contractors should apply to:
 - JORDAN REAL ESTATE ESTABLISHMENT COMPANY Ltd
Tel: 41371 — P. O. B. 35001 — AMMAN, JORDAN
— as owner; with copies to: the Consultants of the Owner, namely:
 - G. E. I. — GENERAL ENGINEERING S. r. l.
13, Piazza Amerigo Capponi, ROMA, ITALY
tel.: 659637 — TELEX 64013 INTERGEI
 - Mohammad Jardaneh engineering office
P. O. B. 9532 — AMMAN, JORDAN
tel.: 67167 — TELEX 1437 HANDSA
- Applications shall be received by each of the above three addresses. Non compliance with this request would automatically disqualify applicants.
- Prequalification forms can be obtained free of charge from either of the three above addresses to be completed and submitted not later than Feb. 25, 1978.

مكتبة الامم